Bourne Public Schools

BOURNE SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Regular Meeting Minutes

DATE: Wednesday, July 7, 2022
TIME: 5:30 PM
PLACE: Remote Access Meeting via Zoom

ATTENDANCE

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair Emily Berry; Ryan Bagdonas; Maureen Fuller; Kari MacRae; Paul McMaster; Kerrie Scofield

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: Erin Perry

OTHER ATTENDEES PRESENT: Dr. Kerri Anne Quinlan-Zhou, Superintendent; Jordan Geist, Director of Business Services

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Emily Berry calls the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

2. PUBLIC INPUT

No public comments are made.

3. REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS

a. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT, *Emily Berry, School Committee Chair*

- Negotiations Update
  - Chair Berry reports that by request of the BEA, negotiations are paused for the summer and will resume in September.
- Announcements and correspondence
  - Chair Berry says graduation took place on June 4th and it was a beautiful day and wonderful ceremony and congratulates all the Bourne graduates.

b. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT, *Dr. Kerri Anne Quinlan-Zhou, Superintendent of Schools*

- School Choice Update
  - Dr. Zhou shares a school choice enrollment snapshot and says this information will be shared at future meetings through the October 1 reporting deadline. She says the district is currently accepting 11 students in BES, 18 students in BIS, 27 students in BMS, and 52 students in BHS which slightly surpasses last year's number. She notes the total can be expected to increase throughout the summer and there will be press releases and advertising letting people know we are a school choice district.
  - She says transportation will be offered to school choice students but will include some parameters such as whether there is space on the buses and if the students can get on at a regularly scheduled stop. Jordan Geist adds that there will be a bus fee as well.

e. DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL EDUCATION AND STUDENT SERVICES PRESENTATION

- Dr. Zhou introduces Kristin Donahue, her recommended candidate to replace Dr. Place as Director of Special Education and Student Services.
- Chair Berry asks Mrs. Donahue to share her background and why she would like to work in Bourne. Mrs. Donahue says she started her career as a Speech and Language Pathologist working in a small district with ages PK-post 22 and eventually became her district's out-of-district coordinator while simultaneously earning her CAGS degree in Educational Leadership from UMass Boston. She then went on to work in various roles for Falmouth High School, Fall River Public Schools, and Dighton-Rehoboth Public Schools. Mrs. Donahue follows up with her reasons for wanting to work in Bourne including having a working relationship with Dr. Zhou and sharing a similar mindset and vision. She says she is excited about the opportunity to help Bourne continue to move toward a more inclusive environment as well as maintain strong, supported programs for students who need more in-depth specialized instruction.
- Maureen Fuller welcomes Mrs. Donahue and asks if she has worked with Dr. Deb Harris as she has been part of that vision. Mrs. Donahue says yes, Dr. Harris was already in place when she started at D-R and when she moved on they still used her guidebook and practices to continue to guide their work. Mrs. Fuller asks if they had a SEPAC in any of the districts she's worked in and Mrs. Donahue answers that they did, with D-R being a regional group with other districts.
- Paul McMaster asks Mrs. Donahue what she sees as some of the biggest challenges families are facing and how she can make a difference. Mrs. Donahues says that in the short term, families are facing the challenge of having their students reacclimate to the demands of being in school and so the social-emotional component is huge right now and it's important to work closely with families to close whatever losses happened through Covid. She adds that there are a variety of challenges for students with significant special education needs including a shortage of nurses for medically-fragile students and a shortage of in-home support.
- Chair Berry comments that she had a chance to meet Mrs. Donahue during her interview and was very impressed and is happy to recommend her to the full committee for a vote. She adds that Liz Carpenito and Leslie Sullivan were equally as impressed.

Paul McMaster motions to approve the hiring recommendation for the Director of Special Education and Student Services; Seconded by Ryan Bagdonas; Roll call vote passes 6-0-0

- Dr. Zhou thanks the committee for taking the time to hold a meeting and says pending successful contract negotiations Mrs. Donahue will do some transition days at the end of July and be fully onboard at the beginning of August.
- Chair Berry thanks Dr. Place for doing a tremendous job in Bourne, especially all his hard work as the Covid lead.

4. ACTION ITEMS

a. Vote to approve Warrants and Payroll

Paul McMaster motions to approve Warrants and Payroll; Seconded by Ryan Bagdonas; Roll call vote passes 6-0-0

5. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

a. School Committee Summer Retreat
b. BOY-EOY Data presentation
c. District Strategy Action Plan

6. ADJOURN-*PAUL McMASTER MOTIONS TO ADJOURN; MAUREEN FULLER SECONDS; ROLL CALL APPROVED 6-0-0*

Meeting ended at 5:55 PM

List of documents and exhibits used (GL c.30A, sect 22(a))

Agenda Item	Document
0	School Committee Agenda

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

Jessica Moerman
Recording Secretary